

2009 SENATE REPUBLICANS



Senate Republicans continue to fight for reforms to create jobs, protect Michigan families and cut state government.



SENATE REPUBLICANS:

2009 ACHIEVEMENTS



RIGHT-SIZING STATE GOVERNMENT:

- Balanced the 2010 budget with \$1.3 billion in cuts and reforms.
- Reduced legislative budgets 4 percent to help balance the 2009 budget.
PASSED & SIGNED 1 bill. (PA 24 of 2009)
- Approved \$350 million in cuts to the 2009 fiscal year detailed in the governor's executive order.

CREATING JOBS AND JUMPSTARTING OUR ECONOMY:

- Phased out the MBT surcharge.
PASSED & SIGNED Senate Bill 1.



SENATE REPUBLICANS:

2009 ACHIEVEMENTS



- Approved a comprehensive Buy Michigan/Hire Michigan package.
PASSED Senate Bills 290, 293, 295, 296, 502 and 539 and House Bills 4083, 4089, 4092-4094.
- Increased small business tax relief by allowing more firms to qualify for the small business credit and the Michigan Entrepreneurial credit.
PASSED Senate Bill 69.
- Approved a resolution to help homeowners lower their property taxes if the value of their home declines.
PASSED Senate Joint Resolution H.
- Expanded battery cell manufacturing credits to spur electric vehicle production in Michigan.
PASSED & SIGNED 3 bills. (PAs 5, 6 and 26 of 2009)



SENATE REPUBLICANS: 2009 ACHIEVEMENTS



- Passed a second attempt at keeping the auto show in Michigan.
PASSED & SIGNED Senate Bills 586-588 and House Bill 4998.
- Expanded the Homestead Property Income Tax Credit to help struggling Michigan homeowners.
PASSED Senate Bill 191.
- Improved Michigan's business climate by excluding certain royalty and interest payments from the business tax.
PASSED Senate Bill 219.
- Made funds available for value-added agricultural grants.
PASSED Senate Bill 134.
- Leveled the playing field to help spur automobile and boat sales.
PASSED Senate Bill 201.



SENATE REPUBLICANS: 2009 ACHIEVEMENTS



- Approved \$873 million in stimulus funding for transportation projects.
PASSED & SIGNED 1 bill. (PA 3 of 2009)
- Utilized federal funds to extend unemployment benefits.
PASSED & SIGNED 3 bills. (PAs 18-20 of 2009)
- Dealt with the state's unemployment insurance interest.
PASSED & SIGNED 1 bill. (PA 1 of 2009)
- Required the state's unemployment agency to be proactive in collecting improper overpayments of benefits that could save \$100 million a year.
PASSED Senate Bills 612-615.
- Stopped Democrats from permanently hiking unemployment taxes on job providers to pay for full benefits for part-time workers.



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- Saved jobs by extending sales and use tax exemptions to refurbishments of new aircraft.
PASSED & SIGNED 2 bills. (PA 53 and 54 of 2009)
- Prohibited the state from establishing costly, mandatory ergonomic standards that go beyond any other state or federal requirement.
PASSED Senate Bills 93.
- Formed biotech industry task force to expand economic development opportunities in biotechnology.
- Created auto industry workgroup to explore ways Michigan can best support the auto industry and its suppliers.
- Helped Michigan electricians find work.
PASSED Senate Bill 142.



SENATE REPUBLICANS: 2009 ACHIEVEMENTS



- Allowed more communities to use SmartZones for economic growth.
PASSED Senate Bill 358.

PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES:

- Strengthened Michigan's child protection laws.
PASSED Senate Bills 257-261.
- Enhanced the ability of police officers to enforce search warrants.
PASSED & SIGNED 2 bills. (PAs 10 and 11 of 2009)
- Required criminals to make restitution to victims of fair market or replacement value of property damaged or destroyed during a crime.
PASSED & SIGNED 2 bills. (PAs 27 and 28 of 2009)



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- Improved efficiencies and procedures of the Friend of the Court.
PASSED Senate Bills 99-107.
- Helped community mental health programs reduce costs.
PASSED Senate Bill 321.
- Established a system of tagging beer kegs to help police hold adults accountable for providing alcohol to minors.
PASSED Senate Bill 470.
- Reduced the blood donation age requirement to help Michigan meet increasing blood needs.
PASSED Senate Bill 419.



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PROTECTING MICHIGAN CONSUMERS:

- Strengthened mortgage loan officer requirements.
PASSED & SIGNED 3 bills. (PAs 12-14 of 2009)
- Encouraged greater communication between lenders and borrowers to help reduce foreclosures.
PASSED & SIGNED 3 bills. (PAs 29-31 of 2009)
- Revised and updated Michigan's trust code.
PASSED & SIGNED 6 bills. (PAs 42-47 of 2009)
- Clarified property tax assessment notices.
PASSED Senate Bill 373.



SENATE REPUBLICANS: 2009 ACHIEVEMENTS



PRESERVING OUR ENVIRONMENT:

- Increased protections of state's waterways funding.
PASSED Senate Bill 34.
- Revised Michigan's list of invasive plants and species.
PASSED & SIGNED 2 bills. (PAs 51 and 52 of 2009)
- Restored the practice of falconry.
PASSED & SIGNED 1 bill. (PA 36 of 2009)
- Urged the federal government to extend its double-crested cormorants reduction order.
ADOPTED Senate Resolution 54.



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REFORMING GOVERNMENT:

- Cut unnecessary red tape by passing regulatory efficiency legislation.
PASSED Senate Bills 13, 431, 434-436, 438 and 439.
- Cut wages for future elected officials by 10 percent.
ADOPTED Senate Concurrent Resolution 11.
- Sped up the process to resolve allegations of campaign finance violations and increased the penalties.
PASSED Senate Bill 113.
- Increased transparency in government by requiring disclosure of certain key information to lawmakers and on the Internet.
PASSED Senate Bills 70, 71 and 72.
- Created a special committee to bring fairness and openness to the federal stimulus process.



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- Scrapped funding for the state police headquarters boondoggle.
PASSED Senate Bill 253.
- Created 10 specialty and fundraising license plates for various causes including Habitat for Humanity, the Boy Scouts and Ducks Unlimited.
PASSED Senate Bills 49, 59, 128, 135, 199, 324 and 571.
- Allowed veterans' groups to be eligible for charitable gaming licenses.
PASSED & SIGNED 1 bill. (PA 41 of 2009)
- Aided disabled veteran business owners trying to secure state contracts.
PASSED Senate Bill 313.
- Allowed certain judicial candidates a remedy if they receive inaccurate information from election officials concerning nominating petitions.
PASSED Senate Bills 21-24.



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- Gave businesses flexibility on estimated tax payments.
PASSED & SIGNED 2 bills. (PAs 8 and 9 of 2009)
- Urged Congress to protect every worker's private vote.
ADOPTED Senate Resolution 16.
- Allowed local units of government and school districts to use credit unions for depositing funds.
PASSED & SIGNED 2 bills. (PAs 21 and 22 of 2009)
- Revised the limits on the number of hours 16- and 17-year-olds can work each week during school.
PASSED Senate Bill 25.